Afforestation in Yamuna River Bed

2115. SHRI K.RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in order to check pollution in the river Yamuna, Government have decided to launch a scheme under which ditches would be dug in the river bed and river banks would undergo afforestation in a big way;

(b) if so, when this scheme is going to be launched;

(c) whether this scheme is a part of Yamuna action plan or is a separate scheme; and

(d) the amount already spent on Yamuna Action Plan and the amount earmarked for this new scheme?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and(b) No, Sir. However, two research studies have been sponsored on survey and action plan for conservation and use of wetlands in floodplains of river Yamuna in the stretch of Delhi and 30 Kms upstream. The details of these studies are as under:

S. No.	Project Title	Type	Date of Sanction	Duration	Budget
(i)	Project on "Assessment of Ecological & Hydrological Functions of Floodplans of river Yamuna in Delhi stretch and Development Strategies for Integrated River Basin Management"	Survey & Action Plan	1.2.2002	Two years	Rs. 11.25 Lakhs
(ii)	Project on "Preparation of Detailed Research and Action Plan for Enhancing Water Flow in River Yamuna at Delhi"	Survey only	20.2.2002	6 months	Rs.7.41 lakhs

(c) The above research studies are not a part of the Yamuna Action Plan.

(d) The amount spent by Government of India on Yamuna Action Plan till 31.1.2002 is Rs. 493 crore and the amounts earmarked for the said research schemes are given above.